

# VCU Magazine


Virginia Commonwealth University

Spring 1984



The great education debate. Page 2.





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# VCU Magazine

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A publication for the alumni and friends of Virginia Commonwealth University

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Each issue of *VCU Magazine* details only a few of the interesting aspects of Virginia Commonwealth University. The opinions expressed in *VCU Magazine* are those of the author and are not necessarily those of VCU.

Located in Virginia's capital city, Richmond, VCU traces its founding date to 1838. Today, VCU is the third largest state-aided university in Virginia and enrolls over 20,000 students on its academic and medical campuses.

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# The great education debate

By Elaine Jones

"American public education is one of the most successful social experiments ever conducted," says Dr. Charles Ruch, dean of VCU's School of Education. "We continue to manage a system that educates the greatest percentage of a nation's young population across most socio-economic barriers. Our system is still the envy of the world."

If we are cognizant of concerns about education that have gained prominence in the headlines, however, a natural question is whether the system is losing its enviable status. According to Ruch, if our only source of information about education comes from a glance at the evening news or a brief review of the newspapers, we are likely to doubt the health of public education. "An annual Gallup poll, conducted each fall among parents with children in public schools, consistently shows that most parents are satisfied with the education their children receive. But they figure other schools must not be as adequate as those their children attend, since we're hearing so much about problems. Clearly, however, schools continue to meet most of the expectations we've always had for them."

Ruch chooses to look at the status of education in perspective. The nation, he points out,

has only recently emerged from more than a decade of social upheaval, and it has not emerged unscathed. Simultaneously America is in the middle of a period of great technological boom. Public education has been the one single institution called on most often to solve an array of social problems, and it currently lags behind technological advances. As a result, there has been a feeling, says Ruch, that public education is not living up to our expectations; in general

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"We are finally engaged in a great national debate which will do nothing but strengthen the educational system."

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many citizens have become disenchanted with the system.

Ruch says that we have lately been mired in an unproductive period of blaming public education for a host of social ills. But he believes many of us are beginning to temper these perceptions with an acknowledgment of public education's consistent level of performance under many social pressures. We are also beginning to realize, says Ruch, that there has been a general lack of consistency among legislators and parents as to precisely what the social problems are that our schools

should be expected to solve. According to Ruch, we are moving out of a scapegoating phase and into honest, open discussion about education. "We are finally engaged in a great national debate which will do nothing but strengthen the educational system."

Part of the debate has been focusing on today's technology which schools sooner or later will have to incorporate into their curriculums. Many educators, including Ruch, are not worried, however, about how soon teachers will make computers a routine fact of their daily lives. "Microcomputers are becoming financially feasible for most sectors of society, including public education. No one doubts that education needs to catch up in the technological race." Computers in the classroom will go a long way toward addressing one modern condition of education: the incredible amount of information teachers have to teach. "With the computer, we can make this information more accessible and eventually ease some of the burden of simply organizing the day's learning activities." And to help young people enter the computer age, high schools are uniformly requiring their students to have at least one semester of computer training before receiving their diplomas.

Managing information in the classroom seems a problem with a viable remedy. But there are other, more complicated items

on the agenda of the national debate, such as teacher salaries and teacher competency. "Two ideas have caught the public's imagination," says Ruch. "Those are merit-based raises for teachers and periodic competency tests. But these are smoke-screens that hide the real facts: Teachers' jobs are far more complex today than ever before; yet we still do not pay our teachers a livable wage."

A major contributing factor to

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**"Teachers' jobs are far more complex today than ever before; yet, we still do not pay our teachers a livable wage."**

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the complexity of a teacher's job, says Ruch, is the changed character of America's young people. Ruch cites some of the conditions affecting today's youth which inevitably end up in the classroom, such as the profound influence of television, the increasing number of single parents and working couples, the public confusion about birth control, the heated concern over nuclear power, and the increased awareness of drug and alcohol abuse among adults as well as children. "Students are more sophisticated today. They are more aware of and affected by modern problems. They are also more confused and less goal-oriented." Yesterday's students, says Ruch, usually had clearer expectations of themselves by the time they reached high school. For example, many who could afford it automatically opted for college. College was more affordable, and the degree

tended to open more doors. As for those students who could not afford a college education, finding a job was the goal. Society did not provide many options for young people, and students held fairly consistent value systems. "A teacher's job was less complicated then," says Ruch.

"This hasn't been the case recently. Teachers face students who are getting mixed signals from their government, their parents, and their peers on just about any issue of concern to us, from legislation on drugs to nuclear controversy. Students seem to have more choices to make but less direction."

According to Ruch, "The path of least resistance has been to blame the teacher for problems with today's youth. So plans, such as merit-based raises and competency tests, have been suggested out of a feeling that if our youth are in trouble, education must be responsible."

Ruch believes merit-based raises will only open a political can of worms. "This plan does nothing to encourage teachers to improve themselves and strive for excellence. It only fosters an atmosphere of tension, as teachers fight one another for the coveted raises. As for competency tests, unless we are willing to ask other professionals to retake exams in their fields as a step to check incompetence, I do not believe we can, in all fairness, require this of teachers."

Ruch sees the great debate over education refocusing attention on today's teaching profession. As he points out, teachers have to be knowledgeable enough to handle the intangible qualities their students bring to school everyday; sensitive enough to distinguish between their authority and the rights of their students; flexible enough to handle federal and state regulations imposed on education;

skillful enough to meet such diverse conditions of the modern classroom as mainstreaming, drug and alcohol abuse, and sex education; and still possess enough stamina to teach well and to remain dedicated to the profession. Says Ruch: "We will finally be able to talk intelligently about raising the level of teacher salaries when we recognize that teaching is more than spending six hours a day in front of the classroom."

One alternative worthy of attention is the development of a career ladder plan. "Schools need to be reorganized so teachers can increase their job responsibilities while remaining in the classroom," says Ruch. The only current route available to the teacher for increased income is promotion out of the classroom. "Career ladder plans afford a rationale for increased professional responsibilities and accompanying salary increases."

Thus, Ruch maintains that money is the biggest single issue facing the public debaters. "If you don't pay now for the quality of education you expect, you'll always pay later—usually in such programs as welfare and corrections." Ruch calls on the public to be serious about devoting more resources to education, if the institution and its professionals are to thrive. "If teachers have to continue to leave the classroom to increase their income, we will soon have very serious problems with teacher shortages and the state of public education."

University schools of education began responding to modern times long before anyone told them to and are very much a part of the great debate. VCU's School of Education is enjoying a reputation as one of the finest programs of education training on the East Coast.



The major area of growth in VCU's program has been in addressing the increased complexity of the teacher's job. A proposal to make computer literacy a requirement of education majors has now been approved for fall 1984. The School of Education has also become one of the more demanding schools on campus, in keeping with a national trend among schools of education to prepare future teachers for the modern classroom. Students applying for education programs must now show a higher grade point average over course work in the humanities and sciences than the standard 2.0 grade point requirement for admission to most majors. Currently, however, the School of Education is among only 33 percent of education programs nationally which require education majors to maintain a 2.5 or better cumulative grade point average in their major as a prerequisite to graduation. Diagnostic reading and mathematics tests are now administered to potential education majors before the admissions process is complete.

Improvements have also been made in the fundamental approach to training teachers. A teacher preparation program includes three components: general university education, training in the discipline (the major), and clinical training. In addition to the more rigorous requirements of course work in general studies and the discipline, the clinical phase of training, composed of field experiences, requires students to spend more time in school settings than ever before. Traditionally education majors only needed to complete a portion of their final semester in student teaching. Now, however, the School of Education is among

other schools nationally which have established a semester of practicum experience as a requirement students must satisfactorily complete before beginning a semester devoted only to directed student teaching.

"The point about these changes," says Ruch, "is that we have been meeting the radical demands teachers must, themselves, face when they begin their careers. Our focus has been on the third phase of a student's training—the clinical preparation—which is the only phase delivered exclusively by the School of Education." Ruch goes on to point out that the other steps in the fundamental approach—general education and training in the discipline—are mainly the responsibility of the university. Says Ruch: "We need potential majors who have been

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**"This plan (merit-based raises) does nothing to encourage teachers to improve themselves and strive for excellence."**

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well-prepared by the university through their freshmen and sophomore years. Education majors have to complete the same general studies and the same core courses in their disciplines as other majors, whether its French, health studies, or marketing."

The school has taken steps to provide more extracurricular resources to its students once they complete education admissions requirements and begin their professional training. Several programs, in fact, are unique to VCU's School of Education. The Virginia Institute for Law and Citizenship Studies is

now in its third year of operation and provides training in the justice system to student teachers and teachers in area school systems. These teachers are then able to incorporate a program of law learning activities and an awareness of the citizen's role in the justice system in their classrooms. Montessori training is in its second year, providing a summer phase of academic studies and continuing with a fall and spring segment of practicum experience. Accredited by the American Montessori Society, the program is open to any student who is interested in the Montessori method and has completed or is nearing completion of an undergraduate education degree. Graduate students also participate in the program.

The school has also been successful in attracting faculty who are nationally known for their expertise in preparing reading teachers. Under their guidance, education students learn that the development of reading skills is a process occurring at all levels of learning. Reading faculty members are engaged in research on developmental reading and work with VCU incoming freshmen to help them enhance their reading and study skills.

Ruch is equally proud of the new doctoral program in urban services, administered by the School of Education in cooperation with other schools on campus. Graduate students can now come to VCU to pursue a Ph.D. in the interdisciplinary leadership training program. Another area of concentrated activity has been in the school's special education program, through its Division of Educational Services. Motivated by dramatic changes in state certification requirements, the baccalaureate program in special education now offers students initial certifica-

tion in one of four programs: behavior disorders, learning disabilities, mental retardation, and severe-profound handicaps.

Related to the increased focus on special education is the new Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) which has been implemented to study and enhance the competitive employment picture for mentally retarded citizens. With a recent grant of \$451,366 and another \$2 million expected over the next five years, RRTC is one of only three centers in the United States devoted to research on mentally retarded persons and the only center whose major purpose is to find jobs for them. RRTC, to which students and professionals from many university departments are invited to conduct research, represents the largest single research activity in the School of Education.

Of approximately \$1.4 million the School of Education has been awarded for grant-funded research, other projects include applied studies in health education, teacher evaluation, dropout prevention, marketing education, and rural education. "We are also closely involved in university inter-departmental research efforts, such as the Capital Writing Project with the English department and staff development projects on both the Academic and MCV Campuses," says Ruch.

The changes in the School of Education, in short, have been sweeping and its curriculum is enjoying good health. The career outlook for education graduates has never been brighter. Follow-up studies of 1982 VCU education graduates indicate that 76 percent found employment after graduation. Of that number, approximately two-thirds had sought teaching positions, and all had received at least one job offer. Though about a fourth declined offers to wait for a

teaching job in a preferred location, several of that group chose employment outside public education. "Reported salary

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"All we are asking is that society pay its teachers enough to enjoy a comfortable living in return for the vital contribution they make to our children's lives."

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differentials of at least \$2,000 continue to draw many of our talented graduates into the private sector," says Ruch. "The salary problem continues to highlight the serious nature of teacher shortages."

Ruch notes that education continues to be an attractive career option for many students. But others turn away from the field when they examine their income needs. This is the area where the national debate can best direct its attention. "There will always be people who feel called to teach," says Ruch. "The desire to teach is profound. Those people want programs like ours, and we're in an excellent position to serve them."

Ruch hopes better plans will be developed for increasing resources to education. "All we're really asking," says Ruch, "is that society pay its teachers enough to enjoy a comfortable living in return for the vital contribution they make to our children's lives." ❧

*Elaine Jones is a free-lance writer in the Richmond area. She holds a master's in English from the university.*



# Behind the scenes on Capitol Hill

By Terry Atkinson

*From May-November 1982 Terry Atkinson (B.S. mass communications, 1981) served as press secretary for Norman Sisisky (B.S. business administration, 1949) during his successful Congressional campaign. She also worked as Sisisky's Washington, D.C. press secretary until September 1983 before being promoted to her current position as legislative assistant.*

*In this article she recalls the often not-so-glamorous life of a Capitol Hill press secretary.*

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It is now 6:30 in the morning and I am already late. About an hour late as a matter of fact. The only blessing in going to work at this hour is that for once I can find a parking place right in front of the Longworth Building. It is small consolation for being up at this hour.

By the time I get organized, the radio stations have already pretty much completed the morning news lineup. That means the larger urban stations will have to make changes in order to have the Congressman's voice over the airwaves. The smaller rural stations vary: some like to be called by 7 am, others don't even come in until 10:30 am. In all, I have 25 radio stations to call this morning. I "feed" them actualities, which are short tapes of the Congressman talking about an issue.





Today, the subject is the payment-in-kind program for agriculture.

Actually, this is the part of my job I like best. Talking to the radio news people is great. They are direct and to the point; they are also interesting. It is probably the best part of my week.

At 8:30 am the Annex staff straggles in. It is great to be in a room completely separate from the main office. No one feels like walking over to check on you. We could all be asleep for all they know. Nothing here is perfect though. The worst thing is that the Congressman, whom you have to consult an average of 20 times a day, is 105 steps away. Running down the Longworth halls is my only form of exercise. It is more than enough.

Today the annex strategy is not working. The Congressman has just come to see me. He wants to do a press release on the peanut price support loan rate, and he wants it out today. "No problem," is the cheery phrase I hear coming from my mouth.

Next comes the legislative director, telling me that the majority whip's office called looking for Democrats willing to speak on the floor tomorrow on the president's education budget. She wants me to write the piece and then alert the TV stations that the Congressman will be on C-Span, a cable station which covers Congress. "No problem," still a relatively civil response.

Next comes the administrative assistant. He wants to know if I have finished putting together the newsletter articles. The newsletter is now three weeks overdue. I assure him that it will be done today. My "no problem" is beginning to sound a little strained.

It is almost a relief when at 10 am I finally get a call from a member of the media. This is an easy one. One of the newspaper people who covers us in Washington, D.C. wants the schedule for the week. Of course—it should be easy. There are two events on the schedule about which he needs more information. Two calls to the main office and I have the answers and call him back.

By 11 am I can take the press release the Congressman wanted over to the main office. He signs off on it. Thank goodness—no retyping. I then trot down to the first floor and have a steno made. I then go back to the Annex where we have a mimeo machine hidden in the bathroom. This is my least favorite task in the world. Our mimeo machine is 20 years old and it hates me. After 30 minutes I emerge with 150 releases and covered with ink.

Next I fold these, stuff them in the envelopes, and seal them. Luckily, an intern had just put press labels on ten sets of envelopes yesterday. Talk about tedious.

The education speech is next. I have a lot of information on this because it's one of my pet areas. This is a breeze. By 1 pm I get it to the legislative director. She makes some changes and we run it by the Congressman. He likes it and we are set. I alert the six television stations which cover us in the district. Next, I call the newspapers that have D.C. reporters up here to cover us. Then I call the radio news networks that cover us. You learn early here that the *Washington Post* and Associated Press are not going to pay any attention to your boss unless he's involved in a scandal.

It occurs to me that I also need to do a press release so that the weeklies will get the statement.

Most of our weekly newspapers cannot afford the wire services like AP or UPI. This is getting old. The mimeo machine is spewing out ink like a fountain. This time I grab an intern to help fold and stuff.

I now return the calls I held from the morning. One defense writer wants to know whether the money for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is still in the budget. Another weekly editor wants information on the Meat Packing Act for the Congressman's visit this weekend. Another reporter wants an interview with the Congressman. All of them want to know now. "No problem," I say, "I will be back to you this afternoon."

After two trips to the main office, I have the appointment for the one reporter and call back to confirm. I also call the Congressional Research Office, which already has information on the Meat Packing Act prepared. They assure me they will have it to me this afternoon. The Armed Services Legislative Aide tells me that the money for the shipyard is still in the budget. I have him call the reporter and talk to him on background. That means he won't be quoted. Only I am allowed to talk on the Congressman's behalf. This is so he will know who to yell at when he reads his morning paper.

I am getting hungry. It is now 3:15 pm. Lunch is long overdue. I run down and grab a chicken basket. Grease makes me calm.

I am also in my sit-and-stare period, a block of time from 3-6 pm where I desperately want an afternoon nap. This is as good a time as any to work on the newsletter. I hate newsletters. My problem is that I am trying to avoid the Congressional Newsletter Trap. This is the well-known rule that dictates that all newsletters be dry and boring and in blue ink.



This newsletter will be different. It is in black ink with brown blocks of color. It also has lots of pictures. The layout is the only part I like. Content is the problem.

I really only have one article left to write, a piece on the deficit. After thinking about it, I finally pull together something that seems to explain the problem simply but without government lingo. You have to watch that up here. When you start using words that mean nothing you know that you have the Washington marble disease.

I take the copy and layout over to the main office and make four copies. Newsletters are the only thing that everyone wants to make a couple of changes in, just to make them feel like they helped. What an incredible feeling of relief.

The printer calls me. I had a couple of town meeting notices that I need to have to the mailing room by tomorrow. He says they have lost the copy and won't be able to get them done until they find it. I respectfully suggest to him that he walk over and get my copy of the card. He, being no fool, suggests that if I want them printed tonight, I should walk them over. This is a big fight because he is eight blocks away. I eventually give in because it is my head that will roll if the announcement for a town meeting reaches the town the week after the Congressman does.

By the time I return it is 6:30 pm. I now reach for my next favorite task. This is putting "Compliments of the Congressman" labels on the bottom of calendars we are mailing out.

This is the kind of no-thought project with which I love to end my day. I can only do this for an hour before I begin to put them on upside down. It is time to call it a day.

Walking to my car, I begin to think about the other press secretaries I have met in the last two months. You know, there are no older press secretaries. Maybe they never woke up from their own afternoon naps, and at 28 they just keeled over from the strain.

After the 30-minute drive back to Arlington, a friend of mine calls and invites me to an impromptu party. The last thing I want is to sit at home and kick my roommate's dog. "Here Scout."☺

Photography by Chip Mitchell





# Uncovering the mystery of 1984

By Paul Woody

I threw the magazine on my desk in disgust as soon as I saw the lead story was another dissertation on 1984 and Big Brother.

I'd read it all before. I knew 10 million copies of George Orwell's book had been sold since it was published in 1949. And I knew at least 10 million words already had been written this year on how Big Brother really is watching us and what we should do about it.

But when you've got the words "Literary Sleuth" painted on your door and your business is finding answers to questions tenured literature professors don't want to face, you learn not to believe everything you read. And after you've been in this business for a while, you learn not to be surprised at anything you hear.

For instance . . .

She was tall, slender, had long blonde hair, and was built like a brick library. She had the burned-out look of a graduate student about her. You know the type. Her eyes constantly jumping up and down from too many nights spent reading a line of Shakespeare and then glancing down at the footnote for an explanation, her hand cramped from writing small, legible comments in the margin of her *Emerson Reader* which remind her to compare and contrast that idea with one in Thoreau's *Walden*.

You see her kind all the time selling used paperbacks on street corners around every major

university in the country.

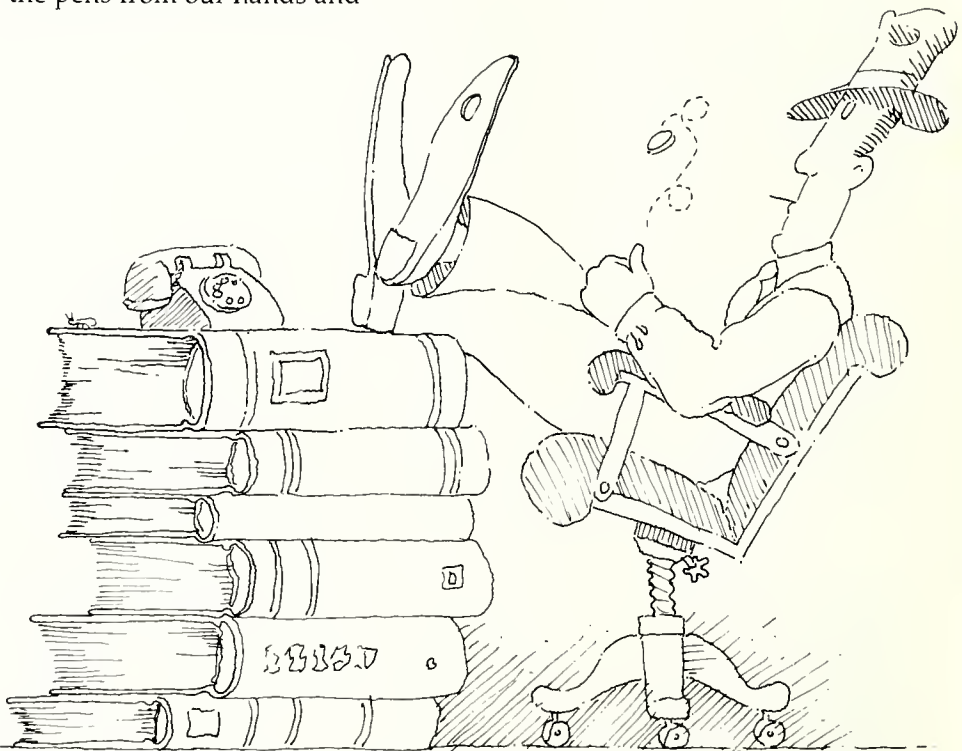
She started to cry as soon as she sat down in my office.

"Spare me the tears, dollface, and tell me what's on your mind," I said. "And remember, this isn't an essay exam, so keep it short and to the point. And it would help if it were in plain English."

"It's my graduate advisor," she managed between sobs. "Ever since 1984 began, he's not been himself. In class, he constantly looks over his shoulder. When we take notes, he grabs the pens from our hands and

mutters, 'You're not going to give that to the Thought Police. Sometimes, he'll be on his way to class and overhear a freshman composition class discussing Newspeak and he'll run back to his office and lock himself in. He refuses to turn on the television and has even missed the last four episodes of *Masterpiece Theatre*. When we go out drinking after seminars, he screams and runs away whenever anyone orders a sloe gin fizz.'"

I looked her straight in the eye.



"I knew at least 10 million words had already been written about what Orwell meant in 1984. But when you're a literary sleuth, you learn not to believe everything you read."



"What's that got to do with me?" I asked. "I've been known to steer clear of sloe gin drinkers myself."

She put her face in her hands and wept.

"Don't you see?" she wailed. "He's obsessed by 1984, Big Brother, telescreens, and The Party. We've tried everything to convince him otherwise, but everytime we start to convince him war really isn't peace, another article appears saying, yes, war is peace, freedom is slavery, and ignorance is strength."

"That's why I'm here. I've heard you're the best in the business. You're the guy who proved Chaucer really didn't mean to write the *Canterbury Tales* in Middle English; he was just dyslexic. You proved Whitman's gardener really wrote "When Lilacs Last in the Door-yard Bloom'd." You're the one who discovered that the shift key on e. e. cummings' typewriter was broken and he never thought to have it fixed."

"You're our last hope. You've got to prove George Orwell, pen name for Eric Blair, didn't mean all those awful things in 1984. Otherwise, a dozen of us are going to get incompletes this semester."

I picked up the phone.

"Stella, hold my calls," I said. I didn't have a secretary and my phone had been disconnected ever since AT&T broke up. I couldn't figure out where to send my payment. Then, I pulled the obligatory bottle out of my bottom desk drawer. Its contents were brown and looked mean.

"I've got to remember to wash these things before I put fresh water in them from now on," I thought to myself.

Then, I lit into this *femme fatale*.

"What?" I yelled. "You want me to go against more than three decades of intellectual thought? How could I show my face at the 'Great Books' discussion groups then? Do you think I'd ever again be able to get my hands on a copy of *The New York Times Book Review* if I did that? Name one Ph.D. program that would even consider my application, regardless of my GRE scores."

Then, I let her cry her eyes out for a while. Ten years ago, when I was fresh out of graduate school and trying to establish my reputation as a literary gumshoe, I might have taken this case. It did offer a challenge. But now? No way. I was too old for new challenges, and, anyway, challenges weren't the issue anymore. Economic considerations came first.

She must have guessed that. Her shoulders stopped shaking and she composed herself.

"I can't say I'm surprised," she said, dabbing the corner of her eye with a tissue. "However, perhaps I can persuade you to change your mind. I talked with my fellow graduate students and we managed to raise this."

She dropped a pile of green on my desk. It was Romaine lettuce.

"How could they have known," I wondered, barely able to remain calm. A good-looking woman with a healthy stack of Romaine lettuce always had been one of my weaknesses.

I slid the lettuce quickly into my desk drawer.

"Come back in a week," I said.

She left and I turned my chair around, put my feet on the window sill and leaned back. The chair tipped over.

When I came to, my head was throbbing, not so much from hitting the floor (the carpet wasn't that cheap), but from what I'd agreed to do. But, it was too late to back out. Besides,

I had a fresh jar of Marie's Thousand Island dressing and some big plans for that lettuce.

On a case such as this, you had to follow your instincts. The logical thing would seem to be scouring the stacks at the local academic library and perhaps even utilizing inter-library loan. But something told me the answer wasn't there. No, I thought, if it were, some assistant professor up for tenure would have found it and published it years ago.

No, on this case, you had to go where your literary doctors and learned commentators would never consider calling.

The man I needed to see was Edsel the Pretzel. He dealt in twisted logic.

I found him in his usual hang-out—the reading room of the public library. Not surprisingly, he was once again reading his well-worn copy of *Alice in Wonderland*.

"My regards to the Mad Hatter," I said.

He didn't look up.

"I need some information. I'm working on an antithesis to 1984. I remember you told me once that if I was ever feeling especially bold, you knew where some information to support that idea could be had."

The Pretzel continued reading.

"Even the phone company has begun to charge for information," he said.

I sighed and slipped him a paid subscription form for *Intellectual Digest*.

"You need to see Marian the Librarian," was all he said.

I waited for more, but he just turned the page of his book.

Then, I tried to push his head down the rabbit hole with Alice. "Don't get cryptic with me, you little twerp," I whispered angrily. "I don't have time to decipher your analogues."

"Shhhh," the librarian with her hair in a bun hissed at us.

"That's really what everyone calls her," The Pretzel said when I let him up. "She used to be a librarian at some college and then she really did win a million dollars through the Publishers Clearinghouse sweepstakes. So, she left academe and opened a used book emporium and doughnut shop."

"That's better," I said.

"But there's one thing," he said. "Be careful. She's anti-intellectual."

Probably chose to take two extra classes instead of writing a master's thesis, I thought.

"Hey," I said gravely, "so was Orwell."

I paid a visit to Marian's place the next afternoon. It was dark in her basement store space and I think my hand brushed against a cat. But it could have been an old, fuzzy doughnut, so I didn't ask.

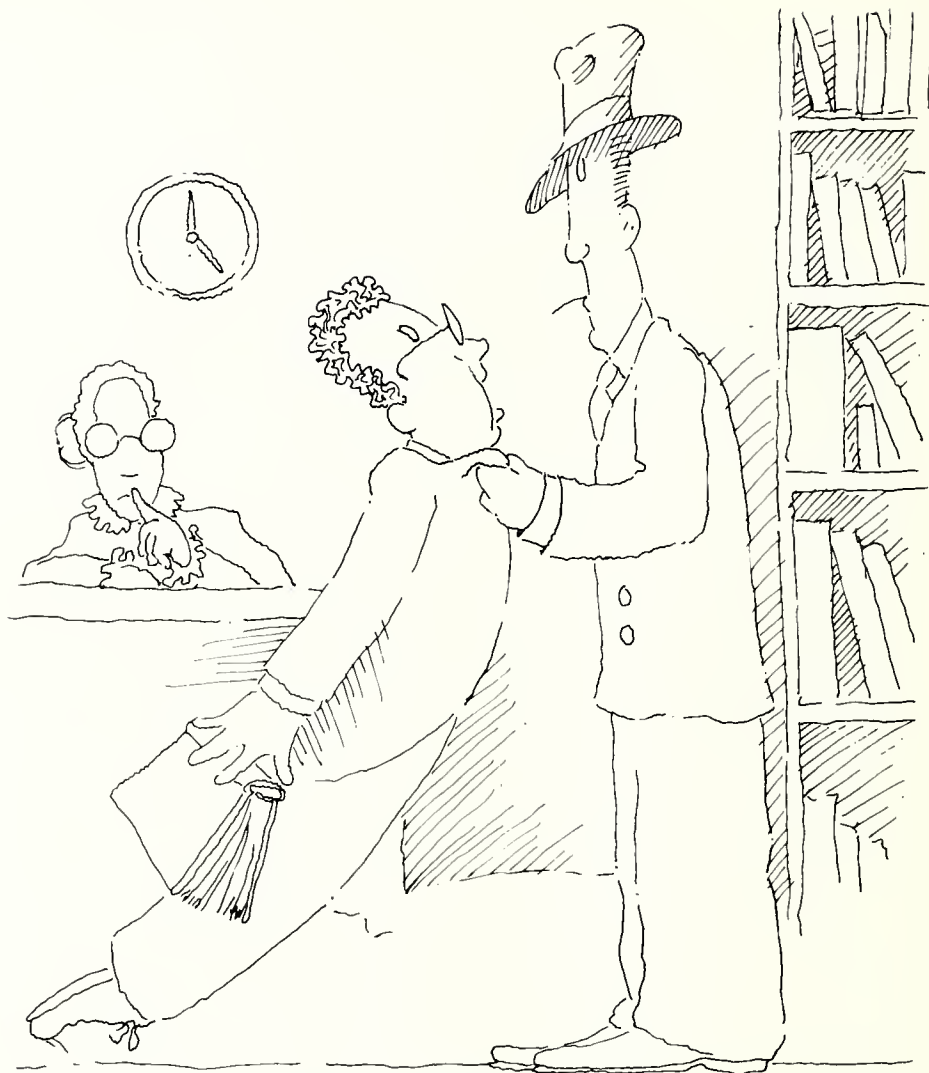
I did ask her what she had cooking on 1984.

"What exactly do you mean," she asked, nervously biting into a jelly doughnut. The powdered sugar gave her a mustache.

I told her as much as I could without revealing my client's identity. I told her I wanted to prove Orwell had long been misunderstood. I told her I'd heard she wouldn't be upset if a lot of intellectuals looked as if they were typing through their dunce caps when it came to interpreting 1984.

She smiled, licked the white mustache off her upper lip, and reached under the counter. She pulled a thick, gray ledger out and looked at it lovingly.

"One afternoon when I was leaving work, a strange little man came by with a wheelbarrow full of books that he wanted to sell. I looked through it and found this, Eric Blair's diary from 1948, the year Orwell wrote



"I told her I wanted to prove Orwell had long been misunderstood."

1984," she said. "I can't say for certain it's the same Eric Blair we all know as George Orwell. But, I'd say a young man such as yourself, who isn't afraid to be brazen, who doesn't mind establishing an obscure parallel, could make quite a case for some of the things in here."

"Take this book, Sonny, and do what old Marian never had the nerve to try."

You probably want to hear every juicy little item. Well, forget it. I see a big spread in *Harper's* coming out of this. I see a serial in *The Atlantic*. I see years without having to track down an overdue foreign language tape in order to make my rent.

But, I will tell you this. 1984 is not what everyone thinks. When

Orwell wrote the book, he wanted it to be three books in one. Part one was to be a musical, his version of *West Side Story*; part two was to be a reference guide for advice and etiquette—sort of a forerunner to *Dear Abby*, *Ann Landers*, and *Miss Manners*; and part three was intended to be a cookbook.

It's all very obvious, really. Even in the worst times, Orwell had a song in his heart and he wanted to put some of them on paper. He was rolling along with such tunes as, "I Just Met a Girl Named Julia," and "There is Nothing Like a Prole," when he ran into a problem.

He couldn't come up with lyrics for one of the pivotal songs, "You Say Eastasia, I say



Eurasia, Let's Call the Whole War Off," so he was forced to shift gears.

A letter he received from a WAC he'd met during the Spanish Civil War gave him an idea. The letter read

Dear Georgie,

I have a big problem. There's this fellow at work that I'm absolutely mad about. But I don't know if he's even aware that I exist. I'm afraid he'll one day just disappear from my life as if he were vaporized and I'll never see him again. I'm not even sure of his name. It could be Smith or even Winston for all I know. Call me drowning in Oceania.

Julia

Orwell replied:

Dear Drowning,

I'm hardly an expert in matters of the heart, but here's what I think you should do. Concoct some situation that will put the two of you in close contact. For example, fall in front of him one day and begin to shriek in pain. That gets them every time. Then slip him a note that says, "I love you." If he responds, and I'm sure he will, test his true affection. For instance, have him take a half-hour train ride, walk two kilometers or so, turn left at the gate with the missing rail, and meet you under the tree with moss on it. Then, you be late for the meeting. If he waits, I think you'll find he wants more than just a big brother-little sister relationship.

But Orwell realized how ridiculous too many letters and too much advice would get if carried to an extreme. So, he shifted gears again.

The cookbook idea came to him one evening at a cocktail party. People were always asking him for any good recipes he'd found while serving with the Indian Imperial Police in Burma.

"Oh, yes," he'd reply.

"There's this one stew in particular. It's unlike anything you've had here. It's sort of pinkish-

gray and I think the masses would find it pleasing."

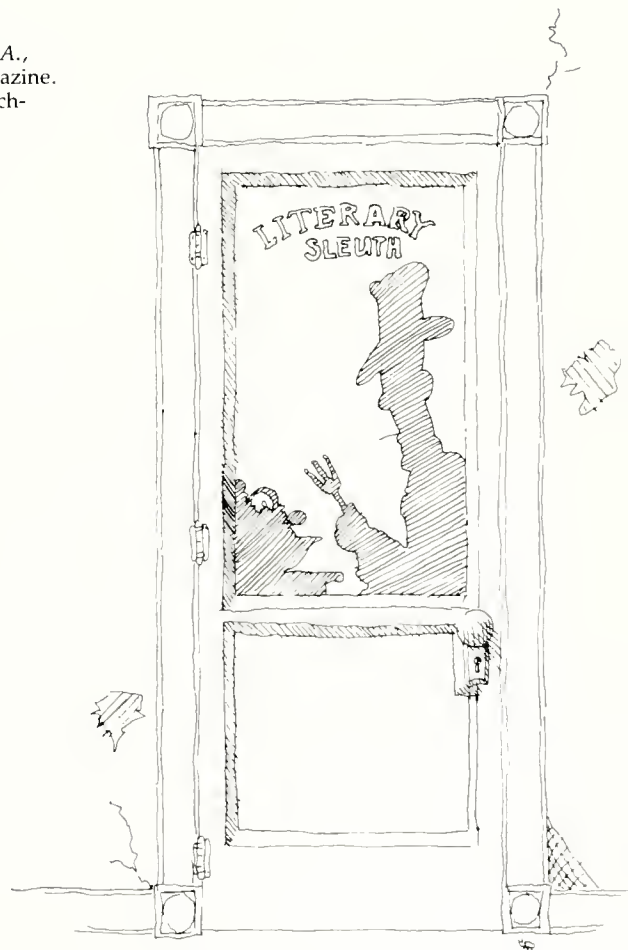
His first inclination was to just publish a book entitled, *1,984 Burmese Recipes*. But he came up 1,980 recipes short. He was taken with the title though, and resolved to use the recipes and 1984 somewhere.

So, there you have it. Quit worrying. Stop checking your lamps for microphones every time you come in from the grocery store. When you pay by check, don't get suspicious if the clerk wants your fingerprints. There's nothing to it.

I think this is going to make my client very happy. She may even want to share a tossed salad with me. After all, man doesn't live on intellectual thought alone. ☺

*Paul Woody (B.A. English, 1975; M.A., 1982) is a former editor of VCU Magazine. He is now a sports writer with the Richmond News Leader.*

*Illustration by Scott Wright*



"After all, man doesn't live on intellectual thought alone."

# Fighting a winning battle

By Susan Green

Twelve-year-old Tracey Ruder was too tired to eat. She often spent her lunch period in the school cafeteria with her head on the table, resting for her afternoon classes. Swim practice after school became impossible without a nap, and Tracey noticed she was losing weight.

Tracey's doctor said her recurrent colds were caused by sinus problems and there was nothing physically wrong with her. Then the diarrhea started. Stomach cramps that Tracey had previously experienced, but had not considered a problem, became worse. Tracey was admitted to a local hospital for tests where Crohn's disease was finally diagnosed.

Crohn's disease, an inflammatory bowel disease which affects between 500,000 and 2 million persons in the United States, usually attacks adolescents between the ages of ten and 20 with devastating results. The chronic inflammation of the bowel causes diarrhea, abdominal pain, poor appetite, fatigue, and weight loss. In addition the bowel wall becomes thicker as the bowel narrows, making the passage of food difficult and painful. These bowel strictures lead to malnutrition, growth retardation, and chronic pain. If a section of bowel becomes too constricted or completely blocked, that section must be surgically removed.

There is no known cause of Crohn's disease, no cure, and an alarming tendency for the bowel inflammation and strictures to recur, even after surgery. Persons with Crohn's disease may notice

symptoms gradually, as in Tracey's case, or may become suddenly ill. Other areas of the body which also can be affected include the liver, joints, and skin. Inflammation in these areas may cause hepatitis, arthritis, and pyoderma gangrenosum, a painful ulcerous skin disease.

Until the cause of Crohn's disease can be identified, treatment is limited to medications to decrease inflammation, diet regulation, and sometimes repeated surgeries. Tracey Ruder made it through seventh and eighth grades without too many complications by following a strict diet and taking corticosteroid medication. Her face was often puffy, a

side effect of the drug therapy, and her knee periodically filled with fluid, which made athletic activity difficult.

But in ninth grade Tracey's stomach cramps became severe. She was referred to the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals where a bowel stricture and abscess in her abdomen were diagnosed. After two weeks of intensive antibiotic and nutritional therapy, physicians recommended that the narrowed and inflamed portion of her bowel be removed. Tracey was facing major abdominal surgery and the possibility of a temporary ileostomy, a drainage tube from the normal small intestine into a collection bag worn around her waist. One





of Tracey's physicians at MCV Hospitals was Dr. Martin Graham, assistant professor of pediatrics at the university.

Graham, a pediatric gastroenterologist at the Children's Medical Center, has been studying the kind of scar tissue that accumulates in the bowel wall in Crohn's disease. An understanding of this scarring process could lead to preventive therapies that would save young adolescents like Tracey from the prospect of repeated hospitalizations and surgery. Statistics show that 85 to 100 percent of Crohn's disease victims who have had strictures surgically removed will form new ones. With a two-year grant from the National Foundation for Ileitis and Colitis, Graham has been collecting and studying scar tissue from surgically resected pieces of bowel. His main focus has been on collagen, the protein that gives strength to connective tissue and is the primary substance in scar tissue.

Normally collagen is produced by specialized tissue cells called fibroblasts. When the body is wounded, fibroblasts in the wounded area produce collagen to help form a scar. Graham has found that the scar tissue in the bowel wall in Crohn's disease contains increased proportions of a kind of collagen made by smooth muscle cells and not by fibroblasts. He also has noted there is an increased number of smooth muscle cells in bowel sections narrowed by Crohn's disease, and there is a relative absence of fibroblasts. All of these observations seem to indicate chronic inflammation in the bowel stimulates smooth muscle in the bowel wall to thicken and produce more of a different type of collagen. The thickening of the smooth muscle and the accumulation of collagen then cause the bowel to become rigid, narrowed, and eventually completely obstructed.



With the help of Dr. Robert R. Diegelmann, a biochemist in the Department of Surgery on the MCV Campus, and Dr. Charles Elson, a gastroenterologist in the Department of Medicine, Graham has developed a new technique to isolate smooth muscle cells from human bowel tissue and culture the cells in the laboratory. Graham first will determine what kind of collagen is produced normally by smooth muscle cells in the bowel. He will then investigate what happens to collagen production when different inflammatory factors are added to the culture. Once the mechanism of stricture formation is understood, Graham believes a chemical inhibitor could be found to prevent or control the process. He hopes to continue his work on Crohn's disease with an extension of his grant from the NFIC or with a new grant from the National Institutes of Health.

With the benefits of ongoing research, patients like Tracey, who left MCV Hospitals in March, will continue to have high hopes. "My friend, who also has Crohn's disease, had surgery two years ago and she's doing really well," Tracey said when she left the hospital. "I hope I do, too. I'll be able to eat what I want, go back to school, and most of all I'm looking forward to horseback riding. I haven't been able to ride my horse for almost a year."

Tracey, now 14, was able to go home ten days after her surgery. She is attending school, takes no medication for Crohn's disease, and best of all, she says, "I'm riding again!" ☼

*Susan Green is an information officer with the university's Office of Information Services.*

*Photography by Chip Mitchell*

# Ram Review







A second-round loss to powerful Syracuse in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament did not tarnish another successful basketball season. With a 23-7 record, the university extended its streak of consecutive winning seasons to 16. Along with earning its fourth trip to the NCAA tournament, the Rams claimed the regular season Sun Belt Conference championship.



# University News

## Vocations in technology

Like many 19-year-olds, Robbie Brooks is excited and nervous about beginning his new job. "I've always wanted to work on my own. I want to tell people I can do it," he says.

VCU has given Brooks that chance. In cooperation with the Richmond Cerebral Palsy Center, VCU's School of Education has developed a vocational training program to aid the severely handicapped in finding jobs. Brooks is the first person to go through the program and the first to begin an externship.

Funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, VCU's Vocations In Technology (VIT) Program works to train the severely handicapped and place them in volunteer job training externships in the Richmond area.

"To date, the severely handicapped face an unemployment rate of 60 percent. Finding jobs for them is hard," said Wendy Pietruski, project coordinator for the VIT project.

Through VIT, realistic employment opportunities in the local community are identified, training is developed for these positions, and on-site work experience through volunteer externships is provided. After Brooks has completed his externship, VIT will assist him in finding a job.

In order to identify possible jobs, VIT staff members went into the community and visited businesses to find out where jobs were needed. "We then purchased equipment and began training by simulating the job Robbie would be doing," Pietruski said.

VIT's focus is on high technology vocational skills. These include using microcomputers, microfiche readers, and electronic calculators.

"The severely handicapped have difficulty using office equipment where speed is essential. We emphasize training for jobs which use the computer as a tool for information retrieval. This involves entering small amounts of code and then updating or changing information already stored in the computer," Pietruski said.

After the training period, which lasted five-and-a-half months, Brooks was placed in an externship at a local bank which used the skills he acquired. A trainer assisted him in adjusting to the job. During Brooks' externship, he used a mini-computer to merge rejected bank transactions into the main computer.

VIT is currently working with 18 students ranging in age from 14 to 21 years. Dr. Paul Wehman, a VCU associate professor of special education, is VIT's project director. In addition to Wehman and Pietruski, the project is staffed by two full-time workers at the Cerebral Palsy Center and a graduate student who works on the project part-time.

With the help and support of local businesses, VIT hopes to train and place severely handicapped students throughout the Richmond community. As Brooks says, "This is the beginning."

## Terrace concerts

CSX Corporation has donated \$50,000 to sponsor the 1984-85 Terrace Concert series of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., and VCU's School of the Arts.

Beginning in October 1984, the Kennedy Center and VCU's Department of Music will co-produce a series of eight chamber music concerts to be performed both in Washington, D.C. and Richmond. The

Richmond-based CSX Corporation will totally support the Richmond Series.

The Terrace Concert series in Richmond marks the first time the Kennedy Center has entered into a partnership with a college or university.

Hays T. Watkins, chairman and chief executive officer of CSX, said, "I am proud that our community will have this unique opportunity to enjoy this significant series of chamber performances. VCU's Performing Arts Center is known for its remarkable acoustics, and I am certain that the audiences will be well rewarded. CSX is, of course, committed to the arts, and we feel that this arrangement between VCU and the Kennedy Center will bring a great deal of enjoyment to Richmonders."

The Terrace Concert series will include several of the United States' finest chamber music performers. The Richmond series will include The Guarneri String Quartet, October 14; Leonard Rose, November 14; Trio Ludwig, with Lory Wallfisch, February 3; The Brandenburg Ensemble, February 20; The American Brass Quintet, March 10; Claudine Carlson, April 1; Young Uck Kim, May 1; and Lucy Shelton, May 5.

A brochure, tickets and reservations may be obtained by contacting VCU's Department of Music at (804) 257-6046 or (804) 257-1166.





# University News

## Exploring careers by computer

Virginia VIEW, a computerized system providing national, state, and local information to individuals exploring careers or searching for jobs, is now available in the university's Career Planning Resource Center.

Virginia VIEW is an acronym for Vital Information for Education and Work. It includes both a microcomputer-based career search process and various microfiche files on occupations and educational opportunities.

The microcomputer version of the search feature allows individuals to obtain their VIEW profile in one-half the time the previous paper-and-pencil version took to provide this information. The finished product is a printout of suggested occupations for further exploration.

VCU obtained the microcomputer through a grant from the Virginia Vocational Guidance Project which is housed at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Virginia VIEW is available by appointment only from 10 am-8 pm, Monday through Thursday, and from 10 am-4:30 pm on Friday. Summer hours are 10 am-4:30 pm on weekdays.

To schedule an appointment or obtain further information on the system, contact the center at 257-1645.

## Specializing in success

The age of specialization, no longer an abstract concept, is here to stay.

In today's highly technological world, however, some people are stronger candidates than others in qualifying as specialists. A question frequently asked by organizations and institutions is how to measure the strengths of the specialist applying for a position.

Nursing schools, like many institutions that train the new specialist, are particularly concerned that personnel have the ability to keep

up with rapidly changing medical technology.

According to Drs. Jeanette Kissinger and Barbara Munjas, professors at VCU's School of Nursing, "Nursing educators have known there are students who 'just don't have it,' or 'don't understand the nursing process.'" They acknowledge that "up until now there were very few ways to identify those qualities which the student might lack, nor agreement about what personal attributes contribute to student success in understanding and using the nursing process." But now they think a way has been found to measure the qualities needed.

Kissinger and Munjas explain in a current research paper that a recent longitudinal study conducted by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) focused on the measurement procedure. Results indicate that three short tests, in addition to SAT scores, can help admission committees identify students who have the potential to successfully complete a nursing program.

The tests measure verbal ability, vocabulary knowledge, convergent thinking ability (i.e., the ability to arrive at one correct answer from multiple options), and field independent perceptual style (a measure of problem-solving capabilities). The study determined that these skills, out of a range of additional data tested, were the best predictors of success.

Both Kissinger and Munjas are confident that the test used in the SREB study, which takes only 26 minutes to complete, will be of value to their incoming upper-division students. They anticipate this will help the admissions procedure in determining those students who have the potential to successfully complete the university's nursing program.

## A matter of fat

A program to correct childhood obesity, piloted in Chesterfield County by Dr. Stephen E. Stone, assistant professor of health and physical education, won national recognition from the U.S. Depart-

ment of Health and Human Services.

The 12-week study, combining vigorous daily exercise with nutrition education for selected students at J. B. Watkins, Reams Road, and Gordon Elementary Schools resulted in dramatic weight losses, improved heart function and overall fitness, and improved self-image for virtually all participants.

Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler noted, "Pioneering local efforts to improve the nation's health and the quality of life are essential if we are to attain our national goals. Since meaningful change in our society is ultimately dependent on community commitment, I am honored to acknowledge these most outstanding community health promotion programs." Stone was one of 126 recipients throughout the United States to receive an award of merit.

Dr. Stone's study addressed the following concerns: (1) obesity affects at least 20 percent of all children and carries high risk of social problems, emotional distress, and medical disorders; and (2) 80 percent of obese children become obese adults and will be at risk for diabetes, high blood pressure, gall bladder disease, degenerative joint diseases, and some types of cancer.

The study, "Exercise/Eat Right Today," was nicknamed "E.T." "Initially, there was a concern that singling out overweight children for the "E.T." program would increase their burden of difficulties," said Stone. "But within a few days other children in the school were asking if they could be in the program, too."

Stone said the study has been a rewarding experience. "It is really gratifying to talk to parents who are so happy for their children and seeing their lives so improved. Many families have also been re-educated about nutrition by their children, which has been another surprising result of the program."

The Virginia Department of Health is sponsoring the program through 1985, during which time "E.T." will expand to all 26 Chesterfield County elementary schools.

## Making nurses better managers

VCU has been selected as one of only three universities nationwide to implement an educational program aimed at improving management skills of nurses with executive potential.

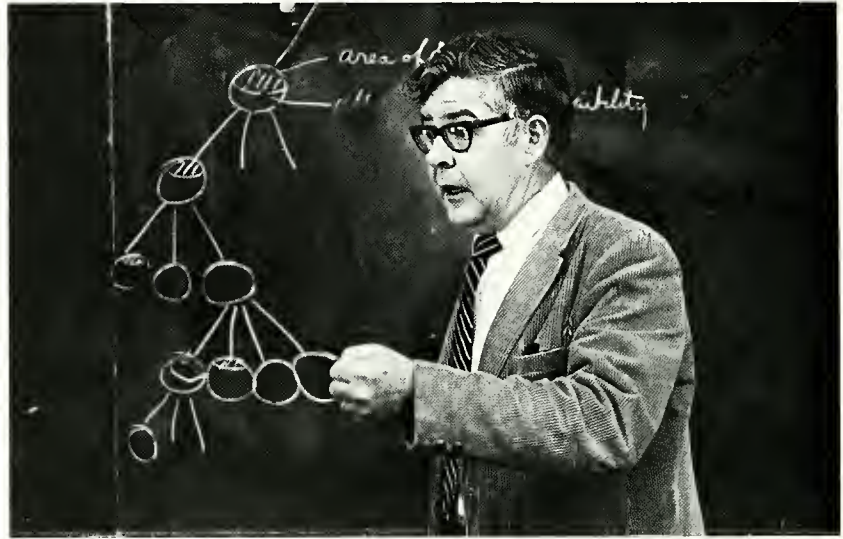
Dr. Barbara Mark, director of VCU's graduate program in nursing administration on the Medical College of Virginia Campus, will implement the program. The other two institutions chosen are the University of Iowa and Boston University. Each program is supported by a \$200,000 four-year grant from the Commonwealth Fund, based in New York City.

Approximately 20 nursing administrators nominated from teaching hospitals across the United States will attend the nurse leadership program on the MCV Campus from May 21 through August 10. The program will consist of a variety of seminars, workshops, field trips, practicum experiences, group discussions, and rigorous academic work with significant participation from the School of Nursing, the MCV Hospitals' administrative staff, the School of Business, and the graduate program in health administration.

The Commonwealth Fund, which is dedicated to meeting society's long-term health care needs, established this program because of the prospect of decreased funding and resources for teaching hospitals in the future. Changes in competition, reimbursement, and hospital patient censuses may affect future planning and decisions made by administrators in teaching hospitals. Numerous surveys and reports have shown that there is a need for input from nurses at the administrative level to help teaching hospitals fulfill their responsibilities and remain financially sound.

## Teaching teachers

In a conference room in the basement of Richmond's Main Public Library, Joe O'Brien's topics for discussion stimulate his students to exchange ideas and thoughts about the legal system and how it functions.



O'Brien's class for Richmond's Open High School students on "Rights and Responsibilities" is one of many law-related education (LRE) classes now being taught in state schools at all levels. He is director of the Virginia Institute for Law and Citizenship Studies that is housed in VCU's School of Education.

"I've seen a noticeable change in their attitudes since the course began," O'Brien said.

These students, who often used to be concerned only with themselves, are finding out through their coursework that their actions also affect other people.

A two-year study conducted by the Center for Action Research and the Social Science Education Consortium in Boulder, Colorado, concluded that LRE can be a deterrent to juvenile delinquency. O'Brien feels that LRE will also help students develop a more positive attitude about their communities, as well as make them aware of their rights as citizens.

The program provides educators with training and curriculum development services in LRE. "Our primary goal is to teach teachers about the law so that they can teach the students," O'Brien said.

The institute assists school systems in making programmatic changes relating to LRE and to improving their capability of preventing delinquency. Through a quarterly newsletter, the institute has

established a statewide LRE information service. A resource materials clearinghouse provides teacher training programs, and a resource person network composed of legal, professional, and community service individuals is available to aid teachers in instructing students about the law.

Persons interested in utilizing the institute's teacher-education services should contact O'Brien at VCU's School of Education, Oliver Hall, 1015 West Main Street, Richmond, VA 23284-0001, or call (804) 257-1322.

## Rewarding excellence

The university's Department of Communication Arts and Design has received two awards for typographical excellence in the design of its information book on graduate programs in communications design.

The American Institute of Graphic Design, which chose VCU's book for its creativity and originality, will publish it in its annual edition of "Creativity 13." The New York Art Directors Club also chose the book from 3,500 other entries for typographical excellence. The club will print it in its annual report, "Graphic Design U.S.A. #4."

The book was designed by VCU



# University News

faculty members Meredith Davis and Robert Meganck. It provides information for new students entering the master of fine arts in design program at VCU. The book was noted in both competitions for its unique typography and design. The type is varied in size and density, providing an interesting contrast on each page. The book also contains several photographs taken from projects done by communication arts and design students.

## Recognizing research

For his studies of hepatitis, rubella, and measles which culminated in the development of the hepatitis B vaccine, Saul Krugman (M.D., 1939) has received a 1983 Albert Lasker Public Service Award.

Krugman, professor of pediatrics at New York University, received the award presented by the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation in the fall. The Honorable Lowell P. Weicker, Jr., was keynote speaker, and Dr. Michael E. DeBakey served as chairman of the awards jury.

In the early 1950s Krugman and his associates set out to combat infectious diseases in children. He discovered in 1960 that children could be protected against measles through the use of a live attenuated virus vaccine. In 1969 he confirmed the effectiveness of the first vaccine in fighting rubella. Rubella is now virtually unknown in this country, and measles is a medical rarity since 95 percent of U.S. children are vaccinated against it.

Krugman's most far-reaching achievement, however, involves viral hepatitis. He has proven that infectious (type A) hepatitis and the more serious serum (type B) hepatitis were caused by two immunologically distinct viruses. He also discovered that heat-treated serum from a chronic carrier of hepatitis B could bring out protective antibodies in persons susceptible to the disease without actually causing the disease. His discovery provided a basis for the development of various hepatitis B vaccines now licensed for use throughout the world.

## Proding professionals

The university is one of three institutions to establish a Professional Development and Dissemination (PRODD) Program to promote better training for health and education professionals who work with disabled youngsters.

The other programs will be located at California State University in Fresno and Northern Illinois University in DeKalb.

The purpose of the program, which began October 1, is to work with disabled youngsters, their parents, and educational institutions to revise existing training programs for health and education professionals. Teacher educators, special education personnel, and allied health practitioners will work together to analyze and develop model programs for all professionals serving youngsters with special needs. Such youngsters range from nursery school age to high school seniors.

Dr. Thomas Barker, dean of the School of Allied Health Professions, and Dr. Charles Ruch, dean of the School of Education, will direct the program.

To support this project, VCU will receive \$18,000 in federal funds for each of the next three years.

## Preventing drunken driving

Prom night is not the only time of year when teenagers party, drink, drive, and often end up seriously injured or killed. "Dad, may I have the keys to the car?" is a question asked by teenagers every day. And every day statistics show a grim record of alcohol-related accidents among teens.

Richmond, like many communities across the nation, is responding to the call for programs to educate teenagers in an attempt to prevent the alarming increase in alcohol-related accidents.

A program developed to implement an experimental curriculum for predriving youth recently was

cosponsored by VCU's School of Social Work, Richmond City School System's Department of Health and Physical Education, and ADAPTS (Alcohol, Drug Abuse Prevention, and Training Service). The adolescent drinking and driving prevention program tested two junior high school classes placed in experimental and control conditions. The experimental subjects, ages 12 to 14, attended ten classes of films and lectures and two driver simulation sessions during regular school hours. A middle school teacher or a peer counselor from ADAPTS' peer counselor program led each class.

To measure the impact of the curriculum, the volunteer student participants were given specially designed knowledge and belief tests before and after the program. Students in the experimental group showed significant changes in knowledge and positive changes in beliefs. The control group showed no changes in either knowledge or belief. An interesting sidelight showed that peer-led groups seemed to do better than teacher-led groups. Researchers, led by Dr. David N. Saunders, associate professor of social work, hope other agencies will be interested in using the curriculum to address the problem of adolescent drinking and driving.

## Pooling income

Alumni have made the difference in the MCV Foundation's success, according to David Bagby, executive director. While many alumni may be interested in contributing to the foundation, often they defer making gifts because of a need to retain income-producing assets.

To help resolve this matter, a new Pooled Income Fund has been established. According to Bagby, a donor can make an immediate gift to the foundation without giving up current income and will continue to receive a good income on all money or securities transferred to the Pooled Income Fund. Substantial tax benefits are also provided to encourage gifts to the fund.

Basically, the fund is a trust maintained and controlled by the MCV Foundation. It has been approved

# University News

by the Internal Revenue Service and the Virginia State Corporation Commission. Donors contribute assets irrevocably to the fund. Each contributor retains income interest for his or her life or for the life of a beneficiary. The gift is commingled and invested with similar gifts made by other donors, and the commingled funds are invested by Capitoline Investment Services with United Virginia Bank serving as the trustee.

All income is divided among the participants. Essentially, in exchange for a gift, units of the fund are allocated. Those units then determine how much of the fund's net income the donor will receive each year. It functions much like an income-oriented mutual fund. In addition, the full present value of the remainder interest in the fund is immediately deductible for income tax purposes. The amount of remainder interest depends upon the value of the asset transferred to the fund and the donor's age.

For additional information call or write Bagby at the MCV Foundation, Box 234, Richmond, VA 23298-0001, (804) 786-0734.

## Through the years

A book on the history of the university is being written by Virginus Dabney, historian and retired editorial page editor of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

Dabney, the first rector of VCU's Board of Visitors, has accepted an appointment as university scholar-in-residence in connection with his research on the book. The scholar-in-residence serves VCU's libraries through work with the special collections and archives divisions.

VCU was formed in 1968 with the merger of Richmond Professional Institute and the Medical College of Virginia. It is now the state's third largest state-aided university and enrolls more than 20,000 students on the Academic and MCV Campuses.

Dabney, who began his research three months ago, said that he anticipates spending the next two to three years researching and writing the book.



"I hope a history of VCU will promote a feeling of unity on the part of the alumni, administration, faculty, and students on both campuses," Dabney said. "VCU is a tremendous asset to the city of Richmond and has elevated this city physically, academically, and culturally."

Dabney is author of *Mr. Jefferson's University*, *The Jefferson Scandals: A Rebuttal*; *Across the Years*; *Liberalism in the South*; *Below the Potomac: A Book About the New South*; *Dry Messiah: The Life of Bishop Cannon*; *Virginia: The New Dominion*; and *Richmond: The Story of a City*. His next book, *The Last Review: The Confederate Reunion, Richmond, 1932*, is scheduled to be published in June.

## Health care and the elderly

Two grants totaling \$668,000 have been awarded the university's Department of Health Administration for the evaluation of experiments being conducted on the role of competition in financing Medicare and Medicaid services.

The experiments involve looking for ways to foster competition for Medicaid and Medicare patients among health care providers, including health plans such as health maintenance organizations.

Dr. Louis Rossiter, associate professor of health administration, is a co-investigator of the projects. The grants are part of \$6 million awarded by the federal Health Care Financing Administration for evaluation of the experiments.

## Educating senior citizens

A College for Seniors Program has been established by the Emeriti Faculty organization of the university.

The program will offer a variety of topics of interest to older persons. The free weekly sessions will be held at times and places convenient to the participants.

John Mapp, emeritus professor of education, is director of the College for Seniors Program.

More information on the classes and how to register may be obtained by phoning (804) 786-0342 or by writing the Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service, 301 West Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23284-0001.

College for Seniors is one of two current projects of the Emeriti Faculty. The organization is also working with University Library Services' Special Collections, where three Emeriti Faculty volunteers are involved in archiving work. Margaretta R. Neumann, professor emerita of social work, is the project's chairman.

Emeriti Faculty are elected by the VCU Board of Visitors. They serve as a resource group with valuable experience and knowledge of the institution and its past. They are listed in the catalogs, receive various materials from VCU, and are invited to participate in special university events.

Dr. J. Doyle Smith, professor emeritus of pharmaceutical chemistry, is chairman of Emeriti Faculty.



# University News

## Promoting journalism among minorities

An Urban Journalism Workshop, designed to interest talented high school minorities in considering newspaper work as careers, will be held this summer at Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Mass Communications.

The workshop, part of a national program to identify minority high school students and encourage them to study journalism during their college program, is sponsored by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Inc., of Princeton, N.J., the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, the *Richmond News Leader* and VCU.

Dr. William H. Turpin, a professor in the School of Mass Communications, will be workshop director.

Since 1960 nearly 3,000 minority high school students have participated in workshops across the nation.

Thomas E. Engleman, executive director of the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, said that minority high school students, by working closely with professional news people and with college journalism instructors who have professional experience, learn they can achieve a career in newspaper journalism.

Goals of the workshop at VCU will be to identify minority high school students who have demonstrated outstanding abilities in verbal skills and in writing, to provide expert professional direction during the workshop, and to have participants' writing published in a laboratory newspaper.

To encourage quality writing at the various workshops, a national Urban Writing Competition will select winners for \$1,000 college scholarships.

The VCU workshop will be held on the Academic Campus from June 17 to June 29, 1984.

Planning for the workshop is being done by an advisory committee comprised of Louise M. Seals, assistant managing editor of the *Times-Dispatch*, chairman; Monte Young and Bonnie Winston, reporters for the *Times-Dispatch*; Steve Clark, columnist, and Gail Kelley,

reporter, for the *News Leader*; Turpin; and George T. Crutchfield, director of the School of Mass Communications.

Financing for the workshop will be provided by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, the *Times-Dispatch* and the *News Leader*. In addition, the two daily newspapers will provide staff members to act as instructors, they will compose and publish the laboratory newspaper intended to display the workshop participants' talents, and they will provide other professional assistance as required.

Talented minority students will be identified by the advisory committee through contacts with high school teachers and guidance counselors. All students must have typing skills by the time of the workshop, and must submit an essay on the topic, "The Role of the American Newspaper Journalist." Grade transcripts and letters of recom-

mendation also will be considered before personal interviews are arranged with finalists in the competition. Students will be recruited from all public, private, and parochial high schools in the central Virginia area.

During the workshop participants will hear lectures from faculty and professionals; study newspaper writing, editing, and layout techniques; cover stories on assignments under supervision; and then produce a laboratory newspaper on the theme, "The American City: Making It Work in the 1980s."

Crutchfield said that VCU was selected as a site for an Urban Journalism Workshop for two reasons: commitment by the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and *News Leader* to attract talented minorities to the newspaper business and the accompanying willingness to finance that commitment, and the increasing recognition of VCU as a national leader in journalism education.



# Alumni Update

## 1932

**Robert J. Walker, Jr. (M.D.)** is professor of family and community medicine at Mercer University School of Medicine in Macon, Georgia.

## 1935

**Alice D. Dole (nursing)** represented the university at the inauguration of Helen Popovich as president of Florida Atlantic University in February.

## 1936

**J. Henry Wills (Ph.D. graduate studies)** currently serves as visiting professor of pharmacology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

## 1942

**Cyril Mirmelstein (dentistry)** has been awarded a fellowship in the American College of Dentists for his contributions to the advancement of the profession.

## 1944

**Walter H. Dickey (D.D.S.)** is president of a group dentistry practice in Roanoke, Virginia.

## 1946

**Randolph M. Jackson (M.D.; B.S. pharmacy, 1943)** has been elected secretary of the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

## 1947

**Philip L. Minor (M.D.)** has been elected chief of the Division of Obstetrics-Gynecology at Richmond Memorial Hospital.

**Ralph S. Riffenburgh (M.D.)** is clinical professor of ophthalmology at the University of Southern California School of Medicine.

## 1950

**Grace E. Gilkeson (occupational therapy)** has been selected dean of the School of Occupational Therapy at Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas.

## 1951

**Bertha Yeatts Faust (B.F.A. fine arts)** received a first place for her painting of a cat in the fall Halifax County, Virginia, Fair.

## 1952

**Mary Ann Levesque Aldinger (B.S. physical therapy)** has reentered practice in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

**Edgar MacDonald (B.S. social science)** is serving as a Fulbright Senior Lecturer at the State University of Leningrad in the Soviet Union during the spring 1984 semester. He is a professor of English at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia.

**David Z. Morgan (M.D.)** has left his post as associate dean for student affairs at West Virginia University School of Medicine and has assumed a new role as a clinical liaison contact to the West Virginia medical community. He is the school's first "outreach clinical consultant."

**Gerald M. Rosenberg (B.S. pharmacy)** was recently appointed president of Peterson Drug Company of western New York, a chain of 17 drug stores and six card and gift shops.

## 1953

**Jean Godfrey Cook (B.S. occupational therapy)** received the National Volunteer Service Citation from the Arthritis Foundation.

**Clifton E. Crandell (D.D.S.)** was recently appointed executive associate dean at the University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston.

**Guy E. Webb, Jr. (B.S. sociology)** has been elected executive vice president of American Agency

Life Insurance Company of Atlanta. He will remain senior vice president of Life Insurance Company of Virginia.

## 1955

**Edgar C. Hatcher, Jr. (D.D.S.)** is serving as editor of the *Journal of the Tennessee Dental Association*. He was inducted as a fellow of the International College of Dentists and also holds fellowship in the American College and the Academy of General Dentistry.

## 1957

**Marvin J. Bleiberg (Ph.D.)** is a toxicologist with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

**Russell D. Evett (M.D.)** has been elected to fellowship in the American College of Physicians. A specialist in internal medicine for 20 years in Norfolk, he is associate professor of medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

**H. E. Kiser, Jr. (D.D.S.)** has been elected senior director of the Southern Society of Orthodontists.

## 1958

**Benjamin W. Longest, Jr. (B.S. pharmacy)** is secretary of the VPhA. He has worked in independent community pharmacy for 25 years and has operated the Cardinal Drug Store in Tappahannock, Virginia, for nine years.

**Karl K. Wallace, Jr. (M.D.)** has been elected vice-speaker of the policy-making body of the American College of Radiology. Wallace is chairman of the Department of Radiology, Virginia Beach General Hospital, and associate professor of radiology at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

## 1959

**William T. Wilkins (M.D.),** a member of the Richmond Society of Internal Medicine and past president of the Virginia Occupational Medical Association, has been appointed corporate medical director for A. H. Robins Company.



# Alumni Update

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## 1961

**William K. Brown** (M.H.A.) has been promoted to captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve with military reserve assignment as administrative officer/division surgeon for the Fourth Marine Division in New Orleans.

**Kyle Coffey** (D.D.S.) is chief of dental service at the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital in Columbia, Missouri, and clinical assistant professor of surgery (dentistry) at the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine.

**Jack W. Gamble** (D.D.S.) of Shreveport, Louisiana, recently received the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons' highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award. Gamble is clinical associate professor, Department of Surgery, at Louisiana State University School of Medicine, and visiting professor of oral surgery at Louisiana State University School of Dentistry in New Orleans.

**Harry D. Simpson, Jr.** (D.D.S.) is chairman of the Special Committee of the Virginia Dental Association on Dentists' Health and Effectiveness.

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## 1962

**John M. McCain** (M.S.W.) recently published a book titled *Adult Foster Homes: Their Managers and Residents*. He is employed as a supervisory social worker with the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Leavenworth, Kansas.

**F. Kenneth Miller** (B.S. accounting) has been named business manager of the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond. He formerly worked for Phillips Machinery, Inc. as controller, corporate secretary, and treasurer.

**Joseph C. Parker, Jr.** (medicine) is director of Cole Neurosciences Laboratory and a professor at the University of Tennessee. He is currently conducting research into degenerative central nervous system diseases.

**Paul Steucke** (B.F.A.) has been named public affairs officer for the Alaskan Region of the Federal Aviation Administration. He resides in Anchorage.

**Edward A. Zakaib** (M.D.) has been named associate medical director of United Medical Plan of Virginia Inc., a health maintenance organization opening in Richmond this year.

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## 1963

**William S. Harrison** (D.D.S.) is a captain in the Navy. As staff dental officer for Naval Reserve Readiness Command, Region Six, in Washington, D.C., he acts as liaison for all dental reserve programs.

**Marianne R. Rollings** (B.S. pharmacy) has been elected first vice-president and president-elect of the Virginia Pharmaceutical Association. She has worked in community and hospital pharmacies and currently practices at Standard Drug Store in Richmond.

**Benjamin J. Stebor III** (D.D.S.) received mastership through the Academy of General Dentistry during its 1984 Convocation in Toronto.

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## 1964

**Frank P. Andrews** (B.S. general business) is director of office services for the Rappahannock Electric Cooperative in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

**David Eddleman** (M.M. music composition) is employed as a senior editor with Silver Burdett Company. Last year, over 20 of his choral works were published.

**Alfred J. Szmuski** (Ph.D. physiology; M.S. physical therapy, 1956; B.S. 1951), associate professor in the university's Department of Physiology and Biophysics, has been elected president of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine.

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## 1965

**Shirley Ann MacKenzie** (B.S. secretarial administration) is office manager for a Baltimore law firm and legal secretary to the firm's owner.

**Barry F. Scher** (B.S. advertising) has been appointed chairman of the board of the Mid-Atlantic Food Dealers Association, a three-state trade association representing over 1,800 food retail and food supply members.

**Jane White Timma** (nursing) is employed as a community liaison officer at USREP/JECOR headquarters in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

**A. Louis Oliver Wilson** (B.S. nursing) has been appointed director of nursing at St. Michael's Hospital, a 750-bed University of Toronto teaching hospital.

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## 1966

**Robert C. Elliott II** (B.S. sociology and social welfare) is in private law practice.

**Barbara Valentine Goodman** (B.S. health and physical education) is a teacher with the Dinwiddie County School System in Virginia.

**Daniel A. Herbert** (B.S. pharmacy) is second vice-president of the Virginia Pharmaceutical Association. A full fellow of the American College of Apothecaries, he is clinical assistant professor of pharmacy at the university and owns and operates a pharmacy in Richmond.

**Marsden W. Morse** (M.F.A.; B.F.A. fine arts, 1964) gave two one-person shows last spring in Princeton, New Jersey.

**Rudolph O. Shackelford** (B.M. composition and organ) gave the premiere performance of a musical composition titled "The Weather of Six Mornings" during the fall at the Cleveland Museum of Art's fourth biennial festival of new music.

# Alumni Update

## 1967

**Robert T. Alexander** (B.F.A. commercial art) is a cartoonist in Milwaukee and has joined the staff of *What's Brewing* magazine, a publication of the Milwaukee Brewers baseball club.

**Ernest A. Jeppsen** (intern) represented VCU at the inauguration of Chase Nebeker Peterson as president of the University of Utah in the fall.

**Edward J. Kerns, Jr.** (B.F.A. fine arts) recently had one of his collage-paintings donated by a private collector to the Corcoran Gallery Museum of Art in Washington, D.C. He is chairman of the art department at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania.

**Robert E. Osborn** (D.D.S.) has been awarded fellowship in the American College of Dentists. He has served as president of the South Carolina Academy of General Dentistry and written several articles in dental literature and a reference text on drugs used in dental care.

**John I. Steele, Jr.** (M.S.W.) received a doctorate of philosophy in social work from the National School of Social Service, the Catholic University of America.

## 1968

**James C. Dimitris** (resident, psychiatry) is a forensic psychiatrist at Central State Hospital in Petersburg, Virginia.

**Harvey Silverman** (dentistry) has been elected secretary of the medical staff of Decatur Hospital in Decatur, Georgia.

**Peter S. Trager** (D.D.S.) is in private practice in Marietta, Georgia.

**Sandra Eley Tims** (M.M.E. music education; B.M.E. 1963) is a member of the Charleston, South Carolina, Symphony Singers Guild. She recently performed with the group in Savannah, Georgia.

## 1969

**Margaret M. Atkinson** (B.S. elementary education) is involved in a variety of volunteer work in the Richmond community.

**R. Nicholas Brown** (B.S. journalism) has been named administrator of the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation's Information Services Division. He formerly held the position of special assignments editor with the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

**Harold Hauser Weiler** (M.D.) has completed a fellowship in cornea and external disease at Georgetown.

**Lynn McCarthy** (M.S. casework) represented the university at the inauguration of Raymond Malcolm Burse as president of Kentucky State University in the fall.

**Robert L. Parker, Jr.** (B.S. business administration) is an associate broker and sales manager with Winfree H. Slater, Inc. Realtors in Richmond. He recently was appointed vice-president of the firm and elected a director of the Richmond Board of Realtors.

## 1970

**Nancy Greene Boyer** (B.F.A. interior design) has been elected an associate in the firm of Jova/Daniels/Busby, an architectural, planning, and interior design firm.

**Thomas S. Buzby** (B.S. administration of justice and public safety) has been appointed legislative liaison to the state insurance commissioner for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**David W. Clements** (B.S. advertising) is head of personnel administration in the employee relations division for Exxon Company in Baytown, Texas. He is responsible for compensation, benefits, and labor relations.

**Stephen Y. Dickinson** (B.S. accounting) has been hired as director of taxes by Media General Corporation.

**Raymond H. Herbek** (M.M. composition) is minister of music at First Baptist Church in Richmond. His church bell choir rang

handbells in the foyer of the White House in December.

**William T. Highberger, Jr.** (B.S. management) has been promoted to vice-president of Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New England.

**W. Baxter Perkinson, Jr.** (D.D.S.), a faculty member in the university's School of Dentistry and a practicing dentist in Richmond, has been awarded fellowship in the American College of Dentists in recognition of his contributions to the advancement of the dental profession and humanity.

## 1971

**Lynn Hilton Conyers** (B.F.A. art education) has been named Art Teacher of the Year by the Northern Valley Region of the Virginia Art Education Association. She teaches at Waynesboro High School.

**Gary Stuart Hoffman** (medicine) is an associate professor of clinical medicine at Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons.

**Michael S. Komarow** (M.D.) of Kingston, New York, is chairman of the Department of Radiology at the Kingston Hospital.

**Stephen L. Schlesinger** (M.D.) is president of the Maui Plastic Surgery Corporation in Maui, Hawaii. He is also chief of surgery at Maui Memorial Hospital, the only hospital on Maui.

## 1972

**Herbert J. Clegg** (B.S. distributive education) has received the 1983 Charles B. McFee Award of Excellence from the Virginia Society of Association Executives. The award recognizes his high standards and excellence in management. Clegg is executive vice-president of the Virginia Restaurant Association.

**Steven R. DeLonga** (B.S. business administration) is president of



# Alumni Update

Ste-Del Service in Fairfax, Virginia. He is past president of the Northern Virginia Apartment Association.

**John Hilliard** (M.M. composition) had his work "Menhir" performed for the first time by trumpeter and conductor Marice Stith at Cornell University in the fall. Hilliard is composer-in-residence at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas.

**Floyd L. Lane, Jr.** (B.S. business administration) has graduated from the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University.

**J. Thomas Ryan** (M.D.) of Fredericksburg, Virginia, has been elected president of Pratt Medical Center, a 24-person multispecialty group. Ryan has also been elected chairman of the newly formed Department of Family Practice at Mary Washington Hospital, a 340-bed community hospital.

**Thomas V. Sellars** (M.H.A.) is chief executive officer for Montana State Hospital, a two-campus operation formed by the merger of the Warm Springs State Hospital and the Galen State Hospital in October.

**Thomas A. Smith** (B.S. management) is employed as store manager of Pleasants Hardware in Richmond. He also serves on the board of directors of the Hardware Association of the Virginias.

**Doris A. Trauner** (medicine) is associate professor, chief of pediatric neurology, and acting chairman of the Department of Neurosciences at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine.

**James A. Whitten** (medicine) is practicing internal medicine at Lewis Gale Hospital in Roanoke, Virginia.

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## 1973

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**William E. Bagwell** (B.S. business administration) is president of Raab and Company, Inc., a real estate firm. He is completing final requirements for designation as Certified Property Manager.

**Shayne Racker Evans** (B.S. history and social science education) is employed as secretary to the personnel director of Sandler Foods in Virginia Beach.

**John V. Felvey, Jr.** (B.S. marketing) has opened a direct marketing advertising agency in Richmond.

**Garrett E. Hurt** (D.D.S.) is serving a second term as president of the Board of Directors of the Bedford, Virginia, Area Family YMCA. Hurt is also a member of the Bedford County Board of Supervisors.

**Phillip J. Mayer** (junior assistant resident, surgery) is head of the Spine Surgery Section at Marshfield Clinic in Marshfield, Wisconsin.

**Margaret McGee** (B.S. physical therapy) is a self-employed physical therapist working with clients with central nervous system damage. McGee also serves as a coordinator-instructor in neurodevelopmental treatment, and travels in the U.S. and Canada to lecture and provide clinical consultation for persons working with adults and children who have cerebral palsy.

**Stuart M. Plotkin** (B.S. pharmacy) has been promoted to product manager in the pharmaceutical division of A. H. Robins Company.

**George C. Stafford, Jr.** (B.S. chemistry) has been promoted to senior scientist in research at Finnigan Corporation in San Jose, California. He recently received three patents in the area of mass spectrometry.

**Johnny B. Smith II** (B.S. business administration) has been awarded the Accredited Adviser in Insurance (AAI) designation by the Insurance Institute of America. He is an account executive with Carpenter Brothers Insurance Agency in the Tidewater area.

**Neil E. Stewart** (B.S. accounting) is a partner in the Washington, D.C., certified public accounting firm of Buchanan and Company.

**Wayne G. Terry** (M.H.A.) has been serving as deputy project hospital director at the North

Yemen Health Care Project in Sada, Yemen Arab Republic. He has been reassigned as deputy hospital director at the Armed Forces Hospitals, Khamis Mushayt, Saudi Arabia. There he will manage the operations of King Faisal Military Hospital, the Armed Forces Hospital of the Southern Region, and five geographically separated outpatient specialty clinics in the Khamis Mushayt region in Saudi Arabia.

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## 1974

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**Edward B. Barlow** (B.S. business administration) is president of Boxes to Size, Inc. and member of the U.S. Small Business Administration's National Advisory Council.

**Richard W. Gregory** (B.S. business administration; A.S. information systems, 1973) has been promoted to assistant vice-president by the Bank of Virginia in Richmond.

**Van S. Hubbard** (M.D., Ph.D. biochemistry) has been appointed nutrition program director of the Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition of the National Institute of Arthritis, Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

**Karen Ann Kurzawa** (B.F.A. interior design) is a self-employed manufacturers' representative for several furnishing companies covering the territory of Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia.

**Christine Leong Leong** (B.S. nursing) has received an M.A. in health care administration from Framingham State College.

**Robert G. Martin** (B.S. sociology) is a rehabilitation counselor with the Virginia Department of Corrections' Fluvanna Correctional Unit. He is a representative to the executive committee of the Virginia Counseling Association.

**Maureen McSloy Sugarman** (B.F.A. interior design) is design director for the First National Bank of Boston, New England's largest bank. She is responsible for the in-house design and space planning.

# Alumni Update

**Ann Burrus Williams** (M.Ed. elementary education) has been appointed to the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

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## 1975

**Linda Bilotti** (B.F.A. communication art and design) is owner of Linda Bilotti Graphic Design in Annandale, Virginia.

**Nancy Q. Fulton** (B.M. sacred music) is working in the credit department with A. H. Robins Company. She is attending J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College and working toward a certificate in credit and collections.

**Carille Greenberg** (B.S. mass communications) is a writer/producer with The TBS Group, Inc. in Lexington, Massachusetts.

**Jesse L. Harrup** (B.S. business administration) has been named budget director by the Virginia Department of Corrections in Richmond.

**Roger C. Merrill** (M.D.) has been elected to a second term as president of Wicomico County, Maryland, Medical Society.

**George H. M. Roper** (B.S. business administration) has been promoted to commercial loan officer by Virginia National Bank Mortgage Corporation.

**Cathie Baird White** (M.Ed.) has published an article titled "Practical Technology" in *Science and Children*, the journal of the National Science Teachers Association.

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## 1976

**Hee Doe Ahn** (M.H.A.) is instructor and business administrator at Yonwei University, Wonju Christian Hospital of Wonju Medical College, in the Republic of Korea.

**Robert H. Brewer** (M.D.) is a family practice physician with two physicians in a partnership at Susquehanna Family Health Center in Marietta, Pennsylvania.

**Robert Anthony Craig** (B.S. biology) is studying at Miami Dade Community College, Medical Center Campus, to become a registered respiratory therapist.

**Chauncey W. Crandall IV** (B.S. sociology and anthropology) is a first-year medical resident at Yale University's affiliate program in Waterbury, Connecticut.

**Linda G. Cupit** (M.S. nursing; B.S. 1971) is a hospital administrator for the Department of Obstetrics-Gynecology at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York. She is also working on her M.B.A.

**Emery Stuart Hite** (M.B.A.; B.S. management, 1971) is vice-president/secretary with Commonwealth Management Systems, Inc., a management and information systems consulting firm in Richmond.

**George Ronnie Hogge** (M.S. accounting; B.S. 1971) has been named business unit manager of the Reynolds Metals Company's aluminum window and door plant in Richmond.

**Dale Grubb Jones** (B.S. nursing) is a technical sales representative for Calciter, Inc., a San Diego, California based manufacturer and distributor, and a subsidiary of Intermedical, Inc.

**Scott McCarney** (B.F.A. communication arts and design) has received his M.F.A. from the Visual Studies Workshop in Rochester, New York. He is teaching design part-time at the State University of New York—Brooklyn and working as a freelance designer. His work has been included in several shows throughout the state.

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## 1977

**Stephen Balducci** (B.S. business administration and management) is a sales representative with Medicine Industries, Inc., a manufacturer and distributor of hospital supplies. Last year, he was named Rookie Salesman of the Year for Medicine Industries.

**Joanne Leslie Bluhm** (B.S. psychology) recently received the Army Achievement Medal. The award is made in recognition of accomplishment, meritorious service, or acts of courage.

**Johannes F. Demmink** (B.S. marketing) is employed as a Virginia territorial manager with EBI Medical Systems, Inc. in Richmond.

**Cynthia Fore** (M.H.A.) has joined DRI/SysteMetrics, a national forecasting and information consulting firm, as a cost containment consultant.

**Eric R. Frykberg** (M.D.) is a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps and is board-certified in general surgery. He recently returned to surgery staff at the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, after completing a six and a half month tour with the Amphibious Task Force in Beirut, Lebanon.

**John P. McGrail** (M.S. business) has been named vice-president for finance by the Ohio Knife Company.

**Andrea Cauble Newsome** (M.H.A.) has been appointed director of DeJarnette Center in Staunton, Virginia. She previously served as assistant director of the hospital for children and adolescents.

**Richard S. Niess** (B.S. business administration and management) is assistant vice-president of Real Estate Appraisal Services, Inc. in Richmond.

**John M. Plunkett** (M.A. English/English education) has been promoted to manager of technical services in Reynolds Metals' can division.

**Jeffrey L. Scott** (B.S. business administration) represented the university at the Dickinson School of Law Convocation in the fall.

**David W. Walrond** (B.S. mass communications) is employed as district sales manager (Mid-Atlantic Region) for *Civil Engineering* magazine based in New York City. He formerly worked as an account executive with Cabell Eanes, Inc., a Richmond advertising agency.



# Alumni Update

**David F. Williams** (B.S. business administration and management) is vice-president of Ambric Testing and Engineering Associates in Alexandria, Virginia. He is also a principal of Nova Associates, P.C., a recently formed consulting, engineering, and survey firm also located in Annandale.

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## 1978

**Edmund Abramovitz** (M.H.A.) has been appointed director of federal governmental affairs and assistant director of management practices for the New Jersey Hospital Association, the trade and professional association which represents New Jersey's hospitals.

**John D. Brittingham** (M.B.A.) has been designated a Certified Employee Benefit Specialist (CBES) by the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

**Deborah G. Clapp** (M.D.) has joined an established private practice in pediatrics in Falls Church, Virginia.

**Catherine M. Curley** (B.S. nursing) is employed by the Xerox Corporation as a marketing representative in midtown Manhattan and is completing a graduate degree in business at Adelphi University.

**Doug Ellis** (B.F.A. communication arts and design) is employed as creative director with Dimensional Marketing in Houston. He is involved in commercial and industrial design and photography.

**Elaine C. Fleck** (B.F.A. painting and printmaking) is studying Zen Buddhism and psychoanalysis in San Francisco.

**Terry Fleming** (B.S. biology; B.S. psychology) has been named an assistant to one of the two directors for the mini-series *Space* adapted from the James Michener novel. The project is to be produced at Paramount Pictures Corporation in the spring and will be aired on CBS.

**Carol J. Froelich** (M.S.W.) is working as a psychiatric social worker with the Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor.

**Melissa Ann Gaulding** (B.A. art education) is learning labs manager with the Washington National Zoo. She recently presented a workshop at the American Association for Zoological Parks and Aquariums' annual conference in Vancouver, British Columbia.

**Donald L. Gilbert** (M.B.A.) has been promoted to director of poultry research and development in A. H. Robins' office of veterinary medicine. He will be responsible for research, development, and registration of poultry health products.

**Forrest A. Hall** (B.S. general science education) is employed as a faculty librarian and instructor at California State University—Dominquez Hills, located in Carson, California.

**L. Harrison Hassell** (M.D.) has completed a fellowship in nephrology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He has been assigned to Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, as staff nephrologist with the Department of Internal Medicine.

**Joseph J. Holicky III** (M.S. business; B.S. psychology, 1977; B.S. business administration and management, 1976) has been promoted to chief of management and information systems for the Governor's Employment and Training Division in Virginia.

**John H. Jones** (B.S. business administration and management) has been elected a branch officer by Central Fidelity Bank in Richmond.

**Stephen Lyons** (B.F.A. communication arts and design) has joined the faculty of the New England School of Art and Design and is a visiting lecturer at the Massachusetts College of Art.

**Jeffrey J. Micelli** (B.S. science and chemistry) has been awarded a fellowship from the University of Connecticut Graduate School where he is a fourth-year doctoral candidate in pharmaceuticals. He is a member of the American Phar-

maceutical Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences.

**Robert J. Newton** (B.S. accounting) has been promoted to GS-12 at the U.S. Army Troop Support Agency in Fort Lee, Virginia. He is an auditor with the Directorate of Resource Management.

**Neil Rosenberg** (medicine) is completing a pulmonary fellowship at Cedars Sinai Medical Center.

**Michael Schwartzman** (M.D.) of Cooperstown, New York, is attending in medicine for the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital. He also is an assistant professor of clinical medicine for Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, the hospital's affiliated university.

**Anthony Segreti** (Ph.D. biostatistics) has been promoted to senior statistician II in clinical statistics with Burroughs Wellcome Company.

**Ben Ivey Wainwright, Jr.** (B.S. business administration and management) has been promoted to EDP manager by the First National Bank of Richmond.

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## 1979

**Marilyn E. Alley** (M.D.) is in her second year as a pediatric pulmonary-allergy fellow at Duke University. She will remain there for three years of pulmonary training.

**Carolyn H. Cromwell** (B.S. marketing) has been promoted to assistant vice-president by the Bank of Virginia in Richmond.

**Rosemarie T. Greyson Fleg** (M.D.) is completing her fellowship in radiology at Johns Hopkins University Hospital. She plans to go into private practice in radiology in July.

**Nancy L. Forrest** (B.S. nursing) is a part-time registered nurse in obstetrics for Henrico Doctors' Hospital in Richmond.

# Alumni Update

**Brenda G. Gilman** (M.Ed. counselor education) has been named assistant director of counseling and career planning at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia.

**Patricia Mastorakis Lake** (B.S. nursing) has earned her M.S. from the School of Nursing and is teaching at Portsmouth General Hospital's School of Nursing.

**James R. Poliquin** (M.D.) has completed his military obligation and is continuing surgical residency training at Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine.

**Douglas Rogers** (B.S. science) has completed Air Force pilot training. He is stationed at Loring Air Force Base, Maine.

**Michael R. Sweeney** (B.S. biology) received his doctor of chiropractic degree from National College of Chiropractic in Chicago and is establishing a practice in Vienna, Virginia.

**Russell J. Tatum, Jr.** (M.S. rehabilitation counseling) has been promoted to Mental Health Counselor III by the South Carolina Department of Mental Health, Division of Community Services.

**Ronald L. Tillett** (B.S. urban studies) has been named a legislative fiscal analyst by the Appropriations Committee of the Virginia House of Delegates. He formerly served as a senior legislative analyst with the Virginia Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.

**Barbara L. Walker** (M.S.W.) is working as a clinical social worker on the Gynecology-Oncology Service at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill.

**Thomas S. Wash** (B.S. information systems; A.S., 1977) has been named manager/vice-president of the newly created system support services division of Wheat, First Securities.

**William S. White** (B.S. pharmacy) has been promoted to manager of special regulatory projects in the research and development division of A. H. Robins Company.

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## 1980

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**Gregory L. Duncan** (Ph. D. clinical psychology; M.S. 1978) has accepted a position as adjunct assistant professor of psychology at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. He is chief of psychology at Pitt Memorial Hospital.

**D. Courtney Griffin** (M.S. administration of justice and public safety; B.S. 1974) has been promoted to sergeant by the Chesterfield County, Virginia, Police Department.

**Cathy Campbell Herndon** (M.S. art) is employed as an art teacher with the Stafford County, Virginia, school system. She recently had several of her paintings displayed at the Center for Creative Arts in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

**Starann E. Mason** (B.S. nursing) recently completed the Air Force's medical service officer orientation course at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

**Greg J. Kerr** (B.S. mass communications) is a sportscaster with KULR television in Billings, Montana.

**Olan Daly Parr, Jr.** (D.D.S.) recently received the Army Commendation Medal at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. The award is made to honor individuals displaying outstanding achievement or meritorious service.

**Susan I. Rothfuss** (B.S. nursing) participated in the evacuation of casualties from Beirut, Lebanon, after the bombing of U.S. Marine Headquarters at Beirut International Airport. A flight nurse with the 435th Tactical Airlift Wing at Rhein-Main Air Base, West Germany, Rothfuss was part of the

crew that brought wounded U.S. service members to hospitals in Europe and the continental United States.

**Wright D. Shields** (B.S. biology) is completing a six-month residency in internal medicine at Roanoke Memorial Hospital in Roanoke, Virginia.

**Vicky Steinruck** (M.B.A.; B.S. accounting, 1977) is manager of fiscal planning and systems for the State Education Assistance Authority of Virginia.

**David B. Stoots** (B.S. administration of justice and public safety) has been promoted to account representative by Travelers Insurance Companies in Knoxville.

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## 1981

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**Michael Chaney** (B.S. mass communications) is employed as an account executive with Abramson Associates, Inc., an advertising agency in Washington, D.C.

**Steven L. Fogel** (M.B.A.) has been promoted to marketing officer by Central Fidelity Banks, Inc. in Richmond.

**Randolph Harrison** (M.B.A.; B.S. health care management, 1979) is chief financial officer of Highsmith Rainey Memorial Hospital in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

**Carrie Parks Kirby** (M.F.A. crafts) is an assistant professor at Alma College in Alma, Michigan. She recently received an honorable mention in the Mid-Michigan Exhibition at the Midland Center for the Arts.

**Elizabeth Leonard** (B.S. psychology) recently won the University of Richmond School of Law's Regional Invitational Negotiation competition. A second-year student, she is president of the school's Moot Court Board.

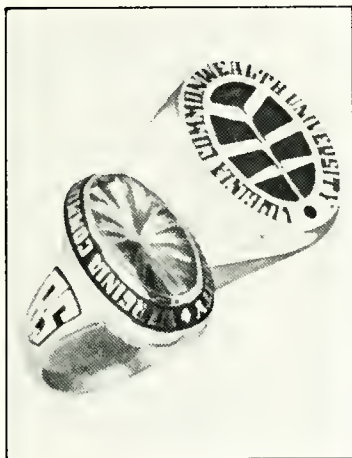
**Nancy H. Manson** (Ph.D. physiology) is assistant professor of biology at Agnes Scott College in Georgia.



# Alumni Update

**Ann Marie Mongelli-Oliveto** (B.S. recreation) has been promoted to conference coordinator at Seabrook Island, a private resort 23 miles south of Charleston, South Carolina. She is responsible for planning programs and meetings for groups visiting the island.

## Rings



### Class Rings

If you failed to buy a class ring as a student, you can now order one. Rings for men and women are available in a variety of sizes. For more information and a price list, write for a ring order kit. If you graduated before 1968, please indicate Medical College of Virginia, if appropriate, when ordering a kit. The request should be mailed to:

Alumni Activities Office  
Ring Order Kit  
Virginia Commonwealth  
University  
Richmond, VA 23284

**Deborah J. Plumb** (M.D.) is a physician with North Shore University Hospital in New York. In June she will begin a fellowship in neonatology at Duke University.

**Bruce M. Slough** (M.B.A.) has been appointed financial industry consultant for the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area by AT&T Information Systems, a communications marketing firm.

**Ralph Stanley** (B.S. rehabilitation services) has been promoted to director of admissions by Rutledge Business College in Richmond. The college enrolls approximately 400 students.

**Judith Smyth Stoots** (B.S. psychology) is employed as an administrative assistant by Plasti-Line, Inc. in Knoxville.

## 1982

**Ann C. Easterling** (B.S. sociology and anthropology) is currently pursuing a master's degree in anthropology at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

**Ronald L. Glover** (B.S. business administration and management) has been identified for early promotion to senior airman in the Air Force. He is stationed at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

**Charles William Green** (B.S. biology and pre-medicine) has been promoted to first lieutenant in the Army.

**Elizabeth A. Hewett** (B.F.A.) has completed Army basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey.

**Cheryl Ann Kerner** (B.S. mass communications) has been hired as an information officer by the university's School of Education. She will be responsible for a quarterly newsletter, public relations, and conference and workshop planning.

**Lyn Smith Loy** (B.S. physical therapy) works as supervisor of burn/wound care in the Physical Therapy Department of University Hospital, Augusta, Georgia.

**Dennis L. Oakes** (B.S. nursing) has completed the Air Force indoctrination for medical service officers at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

**Arthur H. Radford** (M.A. public administration; B.S. urban studies, 1975) is employed as a management consultant with Arthur D. Little, Inc. in Washington, D.C. He is currently working with the Federal Aviation Administration's Advanced Automation Program.

**Thomas F. Richards** (M.S. psychology) has been named counselor for the Office of Counseling and Career Services at Western Maryland College in Westminster, Maryland.

**Peter J. Weimerskirch** (M.D.) has completed his internship in family medicine. Designated a naval flight surgeon, he has been assigned to the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort, South Carolina.

**Richard L. Wilhote** (B.S. biology) has completed Air Force basic training and has been assigned to Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois.

**Linda Marie Tobin** (B.S. mass communications) has been named patient services coordinator with the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Central Virginia Chapter.

# Alumni Update

## Moving?

Please notify us of your change of address

Attach label from recent issue here  
or print old and new addresses in  
the spaces provided.

Print clearly

OLD ADDRESS

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

NEW ADDRESS

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Send to:

Alumni Records Officer  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Richmond, VA 23284  
(804) 257-1228

**Important note:** If this magazine is addressed to an alumnus who no longer lives at the address printed on the address label, please advise us so that we can correct our records. If you know the person's correct address, we would appreciate that information. Also, if a husband and wife are receiving more than one copy of the magazine, we would like to know so that we can avoid duplicate mailings. Please provide the names of both individuals plus the wife's maiden name, if appropriate.

## 1983

**Cynthia J. Biggs** (B.F.A. theatre education) has completed Army basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

**Philip L. Comer** (M.H.A.) is an administrative specialist at Humana Hospital in Daytona Beach, Florida.

**Arneyette M. Ellis** (B.S. biology) is pursuing a Doctor of Optometry degree at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in Philadelphia.

**Jacqueline E. Goin** (B.S. nursing) currently works in the pediatric intensive care unit for MCV Hospitals.

**B. Anthony Hall** (M.U.R.P.) has been hired as an economic development planner by the Southside Planning District Commission in South Hill, Virginia.

**Scott D. McPhee** (M.S. occupational therapy) has been promoted to major in the Army Medical Specialist Corps. Currently stationed at Fort Knox, Kentucky, he is director of the occupational therapy and hand evaluation clinics.

**Dennis K. Parrish** (B.F.A. theatre) received a master of arts degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

**Robert S. Silvers II** (M.S. nursing anesthesiology) is professor of microbiology at Wilkes College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

**Robert P. Stuart** (M.S. finance) has joined the commodity division of Wheat, First Securities in Richmond.

**John Wirt** (M.M. music; B.M. applied music, 1980) is a music reviewer with the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.





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